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INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification ⁷ : A61K 9/10, 9/127	A1	(11) International Publication Number: WO 00/37050
		(43) International Publication Date: 29 June 2000 (29.06.00)

(21) International Application Number: PCT/US99/30631	(81) Designated States: AE, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).
(22) International Filing Date: 22 December 1999 (22.12.99)	
(30) Priority Data: 60/113,423 22 December 1998 (22.12.98) US	
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(54) Title: WATER-INSOLUBLE DRUG DELIVERY SYSTEM

(57) Abstract

The present invention provides a drug delivery system comprising a water-insoluble drug, a water-miscible organic solvent for the water-insoluble drug, a surfactant, and water, as well as a process for preparing the same. This invention further provides a pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and such a drug delivery system. In addition, the present invention provides a method of delivering a drug to a host by administering to the host the drug delivery system of the present invention.

Published

With international search report.

Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.

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WATER-INSOLUBLE DRUG DELIVERY SYSTEM

TECHNICAL FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a drug delivery system for water-insoluble drugs, in particular, 5 17-allylaminogeldanamycin and carboxyamidotriazole, to a method of delivering a drug to a host, and to a pharmaceutical composition comprising such a drug delivery system.

10

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Difficulties exist in developing safe and sterile intravenous formulations of sparingly water-soluble (i.e., water-insoluble) compounds. One such compound is 15 17-allylaminogeldanamycin (17-AAG) which is under development for clinical use as an anticancer agent because of its unique mechanism of action as a modulator of HSP-90. This compound was selected for clinical studies based on its *in vitro* activity against 20 chemorefractory tumor and novel biological actions. Its effect on the depletion of the erb-2 gene product p185 has been reported (Miller et al., *Cancer Res.*, 54, 2724-30 (1994)). Another such compound is 25 carboxyamidotriazole (CAI) which is currently under development for clinical use as an antitumor agent based on its antiangiogenic and antimetastatic effects.

Delivery systems for water-insoluble compounds have been developed using lipid vesicles and oil-in-water type emulsions (Ogawa et al., U.S. Patent 5,004,756; Tabibi et 30 al., 5,039,527; Cotter, U.S. Patent 5,461,037; Lundquist, U.S. Patent 5,660,837, Tabibi et al., U.S. Patent 5,672,358). However, these formulations require complicated processing steps, and the presence of non-aqueous solvents such as dimethylsulfoxide (DMSO) 35 causes physical instability in the formulation. For example, the complete removal of organic solvent in the processing of the liposomes has been reported to be very important to the stability of the vesicles of some

systems (Vemuri et al., *Acta Helvetica*, 70(2), 95-111 (1995)). Other methods are said to require high-speed homogenization of the phospholipids with the active ingredient followed by complete evaporation of the 5 organic solvent with vigorous stirring to achieve optimal entrapment of the active ingredient (Xu et al., *Pharm. Research*, 7(5), 553-57 (1990)). Likewise, it has been demonstrated that the addition of organic solvents to oil-in-water type emulsions causes the oil droplets to 10 coalesce, resulting in instability (Li et al., *Pharmaceutical Research*, 10(4), 535-41 (1993)).

Thus, there is a need for a more satisfactory delivery system for water-insoluble drugs. The present invention provides such a drug delivery system that 15 incorporates an organic solvent, desirably without adversely affecting the physical stability of the surfactant within the aqueous medium. The present invention also provides methods of preparing and using such a drug delivery system. These and other benefits 20 and advantages of the present invention will be apparent from the description of the present invention herein.

BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention provides a drug delivery 25 system comprising a water-insoluble drug, a water-miscible organic solvent for the water-insoluble drug, a surfactant, and water, wherein the water-insoluble drug is dissolved in the water-miscible organic solvent that forms a continuous phase with the 30 water that contains the surfactant. The present invention further provides a pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and the drug delivery system of the present invention. In addition, the present invention provides a method of 35 delivering a drug to a host by administering the drug delivery system of the present invention to the host.

The present invention also provides a process for the preparation of a drug delivery system comprising (a) providing a drug solution comprising a water-insoluble drug and a water-miscible organic solvent for the
5 water-insoluble drug, (b) providing a surfactant solution comprising a surfactant and water, and (c) combining the drug solution and the surfactant solution to provide a drug delivery system.

10 DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

The present invention provides a drug delivery system for water-insoluble compounds, in particular, a drug delivery system for 17-AAG and CAI, and methods of preparing and using such a drug delivery system.

15 For the purposes of describing the present invention, the term "drug" means any compound which is biologically active, e.g., exhibits a therapeutic or prophylactic effect *in vivo*, or a biological effect *in vitro*. The term "water-insoluble" as used in conjunction
20 with the present invention encompasses the terms sparingly water-soluble, slightly or very slightly water-soluble, and practically or totally water-insoluble compounds (*Remington: the Science and Practice of Pharmacy*, vol. I, 194-195 (Gennaro, ed., 1995)). A
25 compound is water-insoluble for the purposes of this invention if it requires at least 30 parts solvent to dissolve one part solute (*Id.*). The term "water-miscible" as used in conjunction with the present invention means susceptible of being mixed with, and
30 forming a continuous phase with, water. The term "isotonizing agent" is used to refer to any compound or composition capable of changing the osmotic pressure of a solution. Concentrations expressed as "percent weight in volume" (% w/v) refer to the number of grams of solute in
35 100 ml of solution. The term "particle size" is used in the context of the present invention to refer to the

average diameter of particles, e.g., lipid vesicles, in a suspension.

Drug Delivery System

5 The drug delivery system of the present invention is comprised of a water-insoluble drug, a water-miscible organic solvent for the water-insoluble drug, a surfactant, and water. The water-insoluble drug is dissolved in the water-miscible organic solvent. The
10 water-insoluble organic solvent forms a continuous phase with the water, which water contains the surfactant. The drug delivery system provided by the present invention is physically and chemically stable. Thus, the components of the system will not micro-crystallize or precipitate
15 when stored at approximately 20° to 30° Celsius for up to 24 hours.

Any water-insoluble drug, or combination of drugs including at least one water-insoluble drug, can be used in conjunction with the present invention. Suitable
20 drugs include antihypertension drugs, antibiotic drugs, and anticancer or antitumor drugs. The present invention is particularly useful with the water-insoluble drugs geldanamycin, especially 17-AAG, and CAI.

Any suitable water-miscible organic solvent can be
25 used in conjunction with the present invention.

Selection of a suitable organic solvent will depend in part upon the solubility of the particular drug in the solvent, the degree to which the solvent is miscible in water, and the toxicity of the solvent. The solvent
30 desirably is physiologically acceptable. Examples of solvents that may be used in conjunction with the present invention include, but are not limited to, dimethylsulfoxide (DMSO), dimethylacetamide (DMA), dimethylformamide, various alcohols such as ethanol,
35 glycols, glycerin, propylene glycol, and various polyethylene glycols. It is preferred that the solvent be DMSO or DMA.

Any suitable surface active agent (surfactant) can be used in the context of the present invention. The surfactant desirably is physiologically acceptable. Physiologically acceptable surfactants are generally known in the art and include various detergents and phospholipids. It is preferred that the surfactant is a phospholipid such as, but not limited to, an egg phospholipid, a vegetable oil phospholipid such as a soybean phospholipid, or phosphatidylcholine. Most preferably, the surfactant is an egg phospholipid.

The surfactant is typically present in a concentration of about 0.5-25% w/v based on the amount of the water and/or other components into which the surfactant is dissolved. Preferably, the surfactant is present in a concentration of about 0.5-10% w/v, most preferably about 1-4% w/v. It is further preferred that the surfactant form vesicles having an average particle size of about 50-200 nm, more preferably about 100-150 nm. A method by which this can be accomplished is set out below. Average particle size can be determined by known methods, for example, by laser light scattering technique.

It is preferred that an isotonizing agent be used in conjunction with the present inventive drug delivery system. The isotonizing agent can be any reagent capable of adjusting the osmotic pressure of the suspension of the present invention to a value nearly equal to that of a body fluid. The isotonizing agent desirably is physiologically acceptable. Examples of isotonizing agents include glycerol, sugar alcohols such as sorbitol and xylitol, monosaccharides such as glucose and fructose, disaccharides such as maltose and dextrose, and amino acids such as L-alanine, L-valine, and glycine. It is preferred that the isotonizing agent is dextrose or glycerin.

Pharmaceutical Composition

The present inventive pharmaceutical composition comprises a carrier, preferably a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, and a drug delivery system of the 5 present invention. The pharmaceutical composition can comprise more than one active ingredient, such as a single drug delivery system with two or more drugs, two or more drug delivery systems, or one or more drug delivery systems in conjunction with one or more drugs 10 (e.g., water-soluble drugs) independent of the drug delivery system(s). The carrier can be any suitable carrier or mixture of carriers.

The pharmaceutically acceptable carrier can be any of those conventionally used and is limited only by 15 chemico-physical considerations, such as solubility and lack of reactivity with the active compound(s), as well as by the route of administration. It is preferred that the pharmaceutically acceptable carrier be one which is chemically inert to the active compound(s) and one which 20 has no detrimental side effects or toxicity under the conditions of use. Suitable pharmaceutically acceptable carriers, for example, vehicles, adjuvants, excipients, and diluents, are well-known in the art and are readily available.

25 There are a wide variety of suitable formulations of the pharmaceutical composition of the present invention. The following formulations for oral, aerosol, parenteral, subcutaneous, intravenous, intramuscular, interperitoneal, rectal, and vaginal administration are 30 merely exemplary and are in no way limiting.

Injectable formulations are among those formulations that are preferred in accordance with the present inventive method. The requirements for effective pharmaceutical carriers for injectable compositions are 35 well known to those of ordinary skill in the art (see, e.g., *Pharmaceutics and Pharmacy Practice*, J.B. Lippincott Company, Philadelphia, PA, Banker and

Chalmers, eds., pages 238-250 (1982), and *ASHP Handbook on Injectable Drugs*, Trissell, 4th ed., pages 622-630 (1986)). Such injectable compositions desirably are administered intravenously, intratumorally (within a tumor), or peritumorally (near the outside of a tumor).

Formulations suitable for parenteral administration include isotonic sterile injection solutions, which can contain anti-oxidants, buffers, bacteriostats, and solutes that render the formulation isotonic with the blood of the intended recipient, and sterile suspensions that can include suspending agents, solubilizers, thickening agents, stabilizers, and preservatives.

Suitable pharmaceutically acceptable carriers for parenteral administration include a sterile liquid or mixture of liquids, including water, saline, aqueous dextrose and related sugar solutions, an alcohol, such as ethanol, isopropanol, or hexadecyl alcohol, glycols, such as propylene glycol or polyethylene glycol, dimethylsulfoxide, glycerol ketals, such as 2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxolane-4-methanol, ethers, such as poly(ethyleneglycol) 400, an oil, a fatty acid, a fatty acid ester or glyceride, or an acetylated fatty acid glyceride with or without the addition of a further, pharmaceutically acceptable surfactant, such as a soap or a detergent, suspending agent, such as pectin, carbomers, methylcellulose, hydroxypropylmethylcellulose, or carboxymethylcellulose, or emulsifying agents and other pharmaceutical adjuvants.

Oils, which can be used in parenteral formulations include petroleum, animal, vegetable, or synthetic oils. Specific examples of oils include peanut, soybean, sesame, cottonseed, corn, olive, petrolatum, and mineral.

Suitable fatty acids for use in parenteral formulations include oleic acid, stearic acid, and isostearic acid. Ethyl oleate and isopropyl myristate are examples of suitable fatty acid esters.

Suitable soaps for use in parenteral formulations include fatty alkali metal, ammonium, and triethanolamine salts, and suitable detergents include (a) cationic detergents such as, for example, dimethyl dialkyl 5 ammonium halides, and alkyl pyridinium halides, (b) anionic detergents such as, for example, alkyl, aryl, and olefin sulfonates, alkyl, olefin, ether, and monoglyceride sulfates, and sulfosuccinates, (c) nonionic detergents such as, for example, fatty amine oxides, 10 fatty acid alkanolamides, and polyoxyethylenopolypropylene copolymers, (d) amphoteric detergents such as, for example, alkyl-*b*-aminopropionates, and 2-alkyl-imidazoline quaternary ammonium salts, and (e) mixtures thereof.

15 The parenteral formulations will typically contain from about 0.5 to about 25% by weight of the active ingredient in solution. Preservatives and buffers may be used. In order to minimize or eliminate irritation at the site of injection, such compositions may contain one 20 or more nonionic surfactants, in addition to those used in the drug delivery system of the present invention, having a hydrophile-lipophile balance (HLB) of from about 12 to about 17. The quantity of surfactant in such formulations will typically range from about 5 to about 25 15% by weight. Suitable such surfactants include

polyethylene sorbitan fatty acid esters, such as sorbitan monooleate and the high molecular weight adducts of ethylene oxide with a hydrophobic base, formed by the condensation of propylene oxide with propylene glycol.

30 The parenteral formulations can be presented in unit-dose or multi-dose sealed containers, such as ampoules and vials. Extemporaneous injection solutions and suspensions can be prepared from sterile powders, granules, and tablets of the kind previously described.

35 Topical formulations are well-known to those of skill in the art. Such formulations are particularly

suitable in the context of the present invention for application to skin.

Formulations suitable for oral administration can consist of (a) liquid solutions, such as an effective amount of the present inventive drug delivery system dissolved in diluents, such as water, saline, or orange juice, (b) capsules, sachets, tablets, lozenges, and troches, each containing a predetermined amount of the active ingredient, as solids or granules, (c) powders, (d) suspensions in an appropriate liquid, and (e) suitable emulsions. Liquid formulations may include diluents, such as water and alcohols, for example, ethanol, benzyl alcohol, and the polyethylene alcohols. Capsule forms can be of the ordinary hard- or soft-shelled gelatin type containing, for example, surfactants, lubricants, and inert fillers, such as lactose, sucrose, calcium phosphate, and corn starch. Tablet forms can include one or more of lactose, sucrose, mannitol, corn starch, potato starch, alginic acid, microcrystalline cellulose, acacia, gelatin, guar gum, silicon dioxide, croscarmellose sodium, talc, magnesium stearate, calcium stearate, zinc stearate, stearic acid, and other excipients, colorants, diluents, buffering agents, disintegrating agents, moistening agents, preservatives, flavoring agents, and pharmacologically compatible excipients. Lozenge forms can comprise the active ingredient in a flavor, usually sucrose and acacia or tragacanth, as well as pastilles comprising the active ingredient in an inert base, such as gelatin and glycerin, or sucrose and acacia, emulsions, gels, and the like containing, in addition to the active ingredient, such excipients as are known in the art.

The present inventive drug delivery system, alone or in combination with other suitable components, can be made into aerosol formulations to be administered via inhalation. These aerosol formulations can be placed into pressurized acceptable propellants, such as

dichlorodifluoromethane, propane, nitrogen, and the like. They also may be formulated as pharmaceuticals for non-pressured preparations, such as in a nebulizer or an atomizer. Such spray formulations also may be used to 5 spray mucosa.

Additionally, the present inventive drug delivery system can be made into suppositories by mixing with a variety of bases, such as emulsifying bases or water-soluble bases. Formulations suitable for vaginal 10 administration can be presented as pessaries, tampons, creams, gels, pastes, foams, or spray formulas containing, in addition to the active ingredient, such carriers as are known in the art to be appropriate.

15 Method of Delivering a Drug to a Host

The present inventive drug delivery system can be used for any suitable purpose. For example, the present inventive drug delivery system can be used for scientific and research purposes, such as in determining the types 20 of diseases or disorders, particularly cancers, which can be treated and for which their onset can be delayed, or progression slowed, by administration of the present inventive drug delivery system(s). The present inventive drug delivery system can be used *in vitro* in conjunction 25 with cultured cells, tissues, organs, and the like.

The present inventive drug delivery system also provides a method of delivering a drug to a host and has particular usefulness in applications *in vivo*. For example, the present inventive drug delivery system can 30 be used in the prevention, delay of onset, slowing, or treatment of the progression of a disease or disorder, such as cancer.

The present inventive method of delivering a drug to a host, especially an animal such as a mammal, preferably 35 a human, comprises administering the drug delivery system of the present invention (e.g., a composition comprising the drug delivery system of the present invention) to a

host. Preferably, the drug delivery system is administered in an amount effective to treat or prevent a disease or disorder in the host (e.g., a therapeutically or prophylactically effective amount).

5 The method of delivering a drug to a host through administering the drug delivery system of the present invention can be made more effective in the treatment or prevention of disease by using it in conjunction with other known methods of treating or preventing diseases or
10 disorders. For example, the present inventive method of treating cancer through administering an anticancer or antitumor effective amount of the drug delivery system of the present invention utilizing an anticancer or antitumor drug can be made more effective by
15 administering one or more other anticancer or antitumor compounds along with the drug delivery system of the present invention. These other anticancer compounds include, but are not limited to, all of the known anticancer compounds approved for marketing in the United
20 States and those that will become approved in the future. See, for example, Table 1 and Table 2 of Boyd, *Current Therapy in Oncology*, Section I. Introduction to Cancer Therapy (J.E. Niederhuber, ed.), Chapter 2, by B.C. Decker, Inc., Philadelphia, 1993, pp. 11-22. More
25 particularly, these other anticancer compounds include doxorubicin, bleomycin, vincristine, vinblastine, VP-16, VW-26, cisplatin, procarbazine, and taxol for solid tumors in general; alkylating agents, such as BCNU, CCNU, methyl-CCNU and DTIC, for brain or kidney cancers; and
30 antimetabolites such as 5-FU and methotrexate for colon cancer.

One skilled in the art will appreciate that suitable methods of administering compositions comprising the present inventive drug delivery system to a host, especially an animal such as a mammal, in particular a human, are available, and, although more than one route can be used to administer a particular composition, a

particular route can provide a more immediate and more effective reaction than another route. Accordingly, the herein-described methods are merely exemplary and are in no way limiting.

- 5 The dose administered to an animal, such as a mammal, in particular a human, should be sufficient to prevent the targeted disease or disorder, e.g., cancer, delay its onset, slow its progression, or treat the disease or disorder (e.g., reverse or negate the condition). One skilled in the art will recognize that dosage will depend upon a variety of factors including the strength of the particular composition employed, as well as the age, species, condition, and body weight of the animal. The size of the dose will also be determined
10 by the route, timing, and frequency of administration as well as the existence, nature, and extent of any adverse side-effects that might accompany the administration of a particular composition and the desired physiological effect.
- 15 Suitable doses and dosage regimens can be determined by conventional range-finding techniques known to those of ordinary skill in the art. Generally, treatment is initiated with smaller dosages, which are less than the optimum dose of the compound. Thereafter, the dosage is increased by small increments until the optimum effect under the circumstances is reached. The present
20 inventive method will typically involve the administration of about 0.1 to about 100 mg (e.g., about 1 to about 50 mg) of one or more of the drugs described
25 above per kg body weight of the host.
- 30

Preparation Process

The present invention provides for a process of producing a drug composition comprising (a) providing a drug solution comprising a water-insoluble drug and a water-miscible organic solvent for the water-insoluble drug, (b) providing a surfactant solution comprising a

surfactant and water, and (c) combining the drug solution and the surfactant solution to provide a drug delivery system. The components utilized in the present inventive process as well as additional desirable and/or optimal 5 components are described above with respect to the present inventive drug delivery system.

The surfactant solution can be prepared by hydrating the surfactant in water to form relatively large structured particles. It is preferred that the 10 surfactant solution is further processed, prior to combination with the drug solution, to provide a vesicle suspension having an average particle size between 50 and 200 nm, preferably between 100 and 150 nm. This can be accomplished using a high speed mixing device, 15 particularly an ultra high energy mixing device such as, for example, a Microfluidizer® device. Microfluidizer equipment is commercially available from Microfluidics Corp., Newton Mass., and is described in U.S. Patent 4,533,254..

It is also preferred that the drug solution and the surfactant solution are independently sterilized prior to their combination. The individual sterile solutions can be stored or transported separately, and combined to provide a drug delivery system at any time. 20

Sterilization of the solutions can be performed by any technique known in the art, for example, by passing each solution through a sterilizing membrane filter. For the purposes of the present invention, each solution is 25 preferably sterilized using a 0.22 µm pore rated sterile filter prior to the combination of the solutions.

The following examples illustrate the present invention, but, of course, should not be construed as limiting the scope of the invention in any way.

EXAMPLES

Examples 1 through 7 illustrate the preparation of drug delivery systems for the water-insoluble drug 17-AAG. Examples 8 and 9 illustrate the preparation of drug 5 delivery systems for the water-insoluble compound (CAI). Example 10 illustrates the use of a drug delivery system to deliver a water-insoluble drug to a mammal. In each example, the surfactant solution formed 100-125 nm vesicles in the final product as determined by laser 10 light scattering technique.

Example 1

A 4% w/v surfactant solution comprising relatively small lipid vesicles was prepared by completely hydrating 15 2 g egg phospholipids in 48 ml double distilled water and passing it through a Microfluidizer® device. The solution was sterilized using a 0.22 µm pore rated sterile filter. A drug solution having a drug concentration of 50 mg/ml was prepared by dissolving 100 20 mg of 17-AAG into 2 ml of dimethylsulfoxide (DMSO). This solution was also passed through a 0.22 µm pore rated sterile filter. The drug solution was added to the surfactant solution resulting in a clear colloidal suspension.

25 The product suspension was divided into two portions for analysis. The first portion was analyzed for drug concentration by high performance liquid chromatography (HPLC). The second portion was filtered through a 0.22 µm pore rated filter, and the filtrate was analyzed for 30 drug concentration by HPLC. No difference in the drug concentration between the two samples was observed, indicating that no microcrystals or precipitate formed during or after the preparation. Both portions of the product solution were kept at room temperature (about 25 35 °C) for 24 hours. The previously filtered portion was filtered again and analyzed by HPLC. No change in drug concentration was observed, indicating that no

15

microcrystal formation or precipitation had occurred after 24 hours.

Example 2

5 The procedure described in Example 1 was repeated using a drug solution having a 17-AAG concentration of 25 mg/ml in DMSO. The final product was physically and chemically stable.

10

Example 3

The procedure described in Example 1 was repeated using a surfactant solution having a phospholipid concentration of 3% w/v. The final product was physically and chemically stable.

15

Example 4

20 The procedure described in Example 1 was repeated using a surfactant solution having a phospholipid concentration of 2% w/v. The final product was physically and chemically stable.

Example 5

25 The procedure described in Example 1 was repeated using a surfactant solution having a phospholipid concentration of 2% w/v and using dimethyl acetamide (DMA) as the water-miscible organic solvent. The final product was physically and chemically stable.

Example 6

30 The procedure described in Example 1 was repeated using a surfactant solution having a phospholipid concentration of 1% w/v and using dimethyl acetamide (DMA) as the water-miscible organic solvent. The final product was physically and chemically stable.

35

Example 7

The procedure described in Example 1 was repeated using a surfactant solution having a phospholipid concentration of 2% w/v and further comprising 5% w/v dextrose. The final product was physically and chemically stable.

Example 8

The procedure described in Example 1 was repeated using a drug solution comprising 100 mg/ml of CAI (NSC-609974) in DMSO. The final product was physically and chemically stable.

Example 9

The procedure described in Example 1 was repeated using a drug solution comprising 100 mg/ml of CAI (NSC-609974) in DMSO, and a surfactant solution having a phospholipid concentration of 4% w/v and further comprising 2.2% w/v glycerin. The final product was physically and chemically stable.

20

Example 10

A drug delivery system was prepared using a surfactant solution having a phospholipid concentration of 4% w/v and a drug solution comprising 25 mg/ml of 17-AAG. The solutions were combined using the procedure described in Example 1 to yield a drug delivery system having a final drug concentration of 4 mg/ml. The drug delivery system was administered in a single intravenous dose of 40 mg/kg to normal SCID (severe combined immuno-deficiency) mice and to SCID mice bearing human breast cancer xenografts. The concentrations of 17-AAG and its major metabolite (17-AG) were measured using high performance liquid chromatography (HPLC), and the levels of HSP90, HSP70, and p185 were measured using western blot analysis. The concentrations of 17-AAG and 17-AG in normal tissues were below detection levels at 7-hours post-administration, but remained detectable in tumor tissue at a concentration of about 0.5-1 µg/g for more

than 48 hours after administration. HSP90 and HSP70 concentrations in the tumor tissue of the treated mice were lower than in untreated mice at 4-hours and 7-hours after administration, but were elevated at 48-hours and 5 72-hours after administration. Expression of p185 in the xenografts of the treated mice was increased 2-fold over expression in untreated mice at 2-hours after administration, but was 30% below control levels at 7- hours, 24-hours, and 48-hours after administration. This 10 example demonstrates that an effective amount of a water-insoluble drug can be successfully administered to a mammal using the drug delivery system of the present invention.

15 All publications cited herein are hereby incorporated by reference to the same extent as if each publication was individually and specifically indicated to be incorporated by reference and was set forth in its entirety herein.

20 While the foregoing invention has been described in some detail for purposes of clarity and understanding, it will be appreciated by one skilled in the art from a reading of this disclosure that various changes in form and detail can be made without departing from the true 25 scope of the invention.

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A drug delivery system comprising
 - (a) a water-insoluble drug,
 - 5 (b) a water-miscible organic solvent for said water-insoluble drug,
 - (c) a surfactant, and
 - (d) water,wherein said water-insoluble drug is dissolved in said 10 water-insoluble organic solvent that forms a continuous phase with said water that contains said surfactant.
2. The drug delivery system of claim 1, wherein said water-insoluble drug is at least one of the group consisting of an anticancer drug, an antitumor drug, an 15 antihypertension drug, and an antibiotic drug.
3. The drug delivery system of claim 1, wherein said water-insoluble drug is 17-allylaminogeldanamycin.
4. The drug delivery system of claim 1, wherein said water-insoluble drug is carboxyamidotriazole.
- 20 5. The drug delivery system of any of claims 1-4, wherein said water-miscible organic solvent is selected from the group consisting of dimethylformamide, ethanol, glycerine, propylene glycol, and polyethylene glycol.
6. The drug delivery system of any of claims 1-4, 25 wherein said water-miscible organic solvent is dimethylsulfoxide.
7. The drug delivery system of any of claims 1-4, wherein said water-miscible organic solvent is dimethylacetamide.
- 30 8. The drug delivery system of any of claims 1-7, further comprising an isotonizing agent.
9. The drug delivery system of any of claims 1-8, wherein said surfactant forms vesicles having an average particle size of about 50-200 nm.
- 35 10. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and said drug delivery system of any of claims 1-9.

11. A method of delivering a drug to a host comprising administering the drug delivery system of any of claims 1-9 to said host.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein said drug delivery system is administered in a therapeutically or prophylactically effective amount.

13. A process for the preparation of a drug delivery system comprising

(a) providing a drug solution comprising a water-insoluble drug and a water-miscible organic solvent for said water-insoluble drug,

(b) providing a surfactant solution comprising a surfactant and water, and

(c) combining said drug solution and said surfactant solution to provide a drug delivery system.

14. The process of claim 13, wherein said water-insoluble drug is at least one of the group consisting of an anticancer drug, an antitumor drug, an antihypertension drug, and an antibiotic drug.

15. The process of claim 13, wherein said water-insoluble drug is 17-aminoallylgeldanamycin.

16. The process of claim 13, wherein said water-insoluble drug is carboxyamidotriazole.

17. The process of any of claims 13-16, wherein said water-miscible organic solvent is selected from the group consisting of dimethylformamide, ethanol, glycerine, propylene glycol, and polyethylene glycol.

18. The process of any of claims 13-16, wherein said water-miscible organic solvent is dimethylsulfoxide.

19. The process of any of claims 13-16, wherein said water-miscible organic solvent is dimethylacetamide.

20. The process of any of claims 13-19, wherein said surfactant solution further comprises an isotonizing agent.

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21. The process of any of claims 13-20, wherein said surfactant solution is processed by a high speed mixing device prior to combination with said drug solution.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Int'l Application No
PCT/US 99/30631

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 A61K9/10 A61K9/127

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 A61K

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	FR 2 609 631 A (SANOFI ET AL) 22 July 1988 (1988-07-22) page 6, line 1 - line 33 —	1,5-7, 11-13, 17-19
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A	—	13-21
X	EP 0 720 853 A (CIBA-GEIGY AG) 10 July 1996 (1996-07-10) page 4; example 4 — —/—	1

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- "L" document which may throw doubt on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

29 May 2000

Date of mailing of the international search report

06/06/2000

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Inte
onal Application No
PCT/US 99/30631

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	DE 41 25 255 A (KNOLL AG) 4 February 1993 (1993-02-04) column 3, line 14 - line 30 -----	1,2,5, 9-12
A	WO 98 53799 A (JENNER BIOTHERAPIES, INC.) 3 December 1998 (1998-12-03) page 13 -page 14; example 1 -----	1,9

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US 99/ 30631

Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of Item 1 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. Claims Nos.: because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

2. Claims Nos.: because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:

3. Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of Item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.

2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.

3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:

4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
 No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

Int'l Application No
PCT/US 99/30631

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